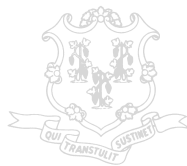


OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 13-59—SB 806

Environment Committee

Planning and Development Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE MUNICIPAL PURCHASE OF
DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND
PRESERVATION**

SUMMARY: This act expands the allowable uses for municipal agricultural land preservation funds. Specifically, it allows a municipality to use the funds to acquire an agricultural land owner's rights to build any residence or farm structure on agricultural land. It also explicitly allows the municipality to accept these rights as a gift.

By law, a municipality may establish an "agricultural land preservation fund" for the purposes of acquiring the development rights of, and preserving, agricultural land. "Development rights" are the agricultural land owner's rights to develop, build on, sell, lease, or improve the land for uses that make the land no longer agricultural. But it does not include the owner's rights to build residences for people directly incidental to farm operation and other farm structures, among other things (CGS § 7-131q).

The act also makes technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

Related Acts

PA 13-90 establishes a procedure to preserve and manage certain state-owned property known as the "Farm at the Southbury Training School" for agricultural use.

PA 13-104 generally applies certain requirements for acquiring development rights to agricultural land under the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) to the Community Farms Program (CFP). It also expands the development rights that a municipality may jointly own with the state under the FPP if the municipality pays part of the purchase price and correspondingly applies the expanded purchase rights to the CFP.

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